GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TEXTILES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4731
ANSWERED ON:23.08.2001
IRREGULARITIES IN HANDLOOM/HANDICRAFTS SECTOR
RATNA SINGH

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Carpet Industry of Bhadoi and Saree Industry of Banaras are on the verge of ruination due to irregularities committed by the Handicraft and Handloom sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof, the reaction of the Government thereon; and;

(c) the details of measures taken by the Government to promote and protect these industries?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR)

(a) & (b): In so far as carpet industry of Bhadohi is concerned, no irregularities have been reported. However in so far as Saree industry of Banaras is concerned, the Government of India is implementing the handloom (Reservation of Articles for Production) Act, 1985 under which 11 categories of textile articles have been reserved at present for exclusive production on handlooms to protect the interest of Handloom weavers. During the implementation of the said Act, 3 cases have been detected in Banaras violating the provisions of the Act by producing sarees on powerloom units which is prohibited under the provisions of the Act ibid. Hence, FIRs were lodged against the powerloom units violating the provisions of the said Act and these cases are under trial in the concerned courts at Banaras. Out of these 3 cases, 2 have been decided by the Court and 1 case is still under trial.

(c): A number of schemes are being implemented by the Government to promote and protect the handicrafts and handlooms industry in the country including carpet industry of Bhadohi and Saree industry of Banaras.The schemes for the handicraft sector include: training; design development; setting up of craft development centres/common facility centre; exhibition and publicity; marketing development; launching of website on handicrafts; workshed-cum-housing scheme and launching of Baba Saheb Ambedkar Hastshilp Vikas Yojana (AHVY) for developing artisan clusters.The schemes for handlooms sector include Deen Dayal Hathkargha Protsahan Yojana; Workshed and Workshed-cum-Housing; Insurance; health package; thrift fund and mill gate price schemes etc.